MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over. Now Papers to be laid on the Table.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Expansion of BHEL

*183. SHRI SUKOMAL SEN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plan to expand the Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd. by taking over some private sector units operating in the same field;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) how far the Seventh Plan requirements for boilers and generators would be met thereby?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) BHEL already has the capacity to meet the 7th Plan power equipment requirements of the country.

Definition of small scale industry sector

*184. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government are considering a proposal to change the definition of the small scale industry sector; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Inspection of Rigs purchased by the ONGC

*185. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1767 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 11th August, 1986 and state:

(a) since the Warrantee period of the rigs purchased from Hitachi, Japan-Robin Shipyard-Singapore and CFEM of France had expired, whether any steps were taken to investigate into the lapse or defects in some of the rigs;

(b) whether periodical inspection of these rigs had taken place during the period of Warrantee;

(c) whether any report was submitted on the structural defects in these rigs; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) The investigation caried out by M/s. Noble Denton & Associates in the case of Sagar Pragati has revealed that the cracks in the legs occurred due to the following reasons:

(i) From abnormal metallurgical reasons, which occurred during operational service and could not be foreseen at the time the rig was delivered and put to use.

(ii) Fatigue mechanism arising from cyclic stress during operational services.

The report in respect of the other two rigs, Sagar Gaurav and Sagar Shakti is under the consideration of the Oil & Natural Gas Commission.